

Task Force Meeting No. 27 Synopsis October 19, 2009

Task Force Members Present*:

Teresa Alvarado, Shiloh Ballard, Michele Beasley, Judy Chirco, Gary Chronert, Pat Dando, Harvey Darnell, Brian Darrow, Dave Fadness, Enrique Fernandez, Leslee Hamilton, Nancy Ianni, Lisa Jensen, Frank Jesse, Karl Lee, Shirley Lewis, Linda LeZotte, Sam Liccardo, Pierluigi Oliverio, David Pandori, Dick Santos, Patricia Sausedo, Erik Schoennauer, Judy Stabile, Neil Struthers, Alofa Talivaa, Jim Zito.

Task Force Members Absent:

Jackie Adams, Pastor Oscar Dace, Sam Ho, Matt Kamkar, Charles Lauer, Jenniffer Rodriguez, Michael Van Every.

City Staff and Other Public Agency Staff Present*

Peter Hamilton (D9 Council Office), Junko Vroman (ESD), Jennifer Seguin (ESD), Mary Tucker (ESD), Wayne Chen (Housing), Ru Weerakoon (Mayor's Office), Karen McDonough (ESD), Ashwini Kantak (CMO), Nanci Klein(OED), Joseph Horwedel (PBCE), Laurel Prevetti (PBCE), Andrew Crabtree (PBCE), Lee Butler (PBCE), John Baty (PBCE), Michael Brilliot (PBCE).

Public Present*:

Rosylin Dean (Coalition for a Downtown Hospital), Leah Toeniskoetter, Jack Nadeau, Trixie Johnson (LWV), Kerri Hamilton (CEEJ & Healthy Silicon Valley), D. Arant (SHPNA), Helen Chapman (SHPNA), Nora Monette (David J. Powers), Walker Kellogg (Salas O'Brien), Liz Valdez, Virginia Holtz, Nicole Moreau, Gregory Cabrera, Ruth Cavagnaro (SHPNA), Jean Dresden, Christine Choi, Ed Rast (WGNA), Elaine Curran, Lowell Grattan, Larry Ames, Tadas Narauskas, Kelly Gearhart (USGBC), David Marsland (Sierra Club Cool Cities), Mark A Medeiros, Susan Marsland.

*As verified by registering attendance on Sign-In Sheets.

1. Welcome

The meeting convened at 6:31 p.m.

2. Review and approval of September 28, 2009 synopsis

The synopsis was approved.

3. Review Consent Items - Proposed Goals, Policies and Implementation Actions

a. Water Supply

A letter was submitted by Task Force Member Dave Fadness, and the Task Force chose to delay discussion of water supply goals, policies, and actions until November in order to have time to review the letter.

b. Recycling / Zero Waste

Some questions were raised, and the Task Force generally accepted the proposed goals, policies, and actions.

c. Energy Supply and Conservation

A Task Force member requested that a policy be added/modified to more specifically address site design and building orientation that maximizes solar panel efficiency. Another Task Force member requested that policies address and encourage the retrofit of existing development to be more energy efficient.

d. Green Building

Task Force members pulled a number of the proposed goals, policies, and actions for discussion. Some Task Force members expressed a desire to strengthen the language in some of the policies. Other Task Force members cautioned about putting too many requirements into the updated General Plan, stating that we need to ensure that the plan can realistically be implemented. In addition, some Task Force members expressed concern that rigorous green building regulations may put San Jose at a competitive disadvantage and conflict with out economic goals. Task Force members requested that more quantifiable measurements be included in the language, and Task Force members also expressed opinions on how existing and new construction should be segregated and whether green building retrofits should be required, incentivized, or required when certain changes to a property are proposed. Task Force members sought clarification and modification regarding the proposed construction retrofit and new construction goals, policies, actions, and performance measures.

e. Clean Technology – Economic Development

No specific comments were received.

4. Environmental Leadership - Proposed Policies to Address:

John Stufflebean, Director of the Department of Environmental Services, provided a presentation highlighting global climate change issues and how the San Jose's Green Vision goals help to address global climate change. He linked these goals to economic development strategies for the City.

a. Global Climate Change – Mitigation and Adaptation

No specific comments were received.

b. Green Vision Goal 7: Measurable General Plan / Green Vision 2040

Task Force members relayed many ideas for incorporating measurable standards into the General Plan Update, including metrics for access to healthy food sources, for jobs to employed resident ratio, and for distance of jobs and housing to transit facilities. A Task Force member also expressed that distance, access, and other metrics should be applied equitably to all of the Planning Areas or Council Districts and that a Citywide average should not only be used.

Task Force members also debated the usefulness of personal miles travelled versus the more traditional method of vehicle miles travelled and requested clarification of what is included with the personal miles travelled total. A Task Force member commented that after the Update is adopted, we need to review our progress towards meeting specific measures, and staff confirmed that the intent is to schedule regular reports to City Council on progress towards meeting the measurable goals.

5. Public Comment

Five members of the public spoke. One had multiple comments on the proposed goals, policies, and actions for energy, stating that he had a letter for the Task Force to review. Another encouraged the Task Force to think big and be bold in developing goals and policies. Other comments included using fiscal impacts of General Plan goals and policies upon the City as a performance measure and partnering with other public agencies to incentivize green building retrofits and promote law changes. Another member of the public stated that the goals and policies must be carefully worded so their intent and applicability is still valid as technology changes. A final speaker promoted job creation and access to transit, stating transit should be subsidized and parking costs should be increased.

6. Task Force Recommendation (vote on motions as needed)

Staff provided a very brief synopsis of the information heard at the meeting and noted that, as applicable, revised goals, policies, and actions will be presented at the November Task Force meeting.

7. Announcements

The Task Force was reminded of the meeting next week (October 26th) and the pending deadline for participation in Wikiplanning. A November 14th tour hosted by the Silicon Valley Leadership Group was announced, and flyers will be distributed at the October 26th meeting. Staff requested that comments be forwarded to staff at least eight days in advance of a Task Force meeting in order for them to be posted online with the packet of Task Force materials.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.